

The Sydney Morning Herald.

SYDNEY, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1909.

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SUMMARY.

FARMER'S COSTUME SHOW.

King Edward and Queen Alexandra started from Berlin on Friday on their return home in the cold weather.

Her Majesties received an ovation on reaching London.

The situation between Austria-Hungary and Serbia does not improve.

The Marylebone Cricket Club has decided to let its ground to send a team to South Africa next December.

The committee also agreed, in response to the desire of the Australian Board of Control to call a public reference to consider rules relative to a match.

England has defeated Ireland at Rugby football, and two tries to a goal.

The Australian Rugby League team played a draw with a Warrington team, each side scoring a goal and two tries.

Commercial men of Great Britain have been greatly stirred by the prospect of losing trade under the French tariff revision.

Their protest is that the projected changes are likely to damage the exports.

The French Government has now decided to open a number of proposals embodied in a bill brought forward by the Customs Committee.

Mr. J. A. Pease, Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury, stated at Plymouth that a general election would come before many months are passed.

The issue, he added, would be the abolition of the vote of the House of Lords.

Mr. Dillon, M.P., has warned Mr. Asquith that if the Liberal Party, in the House of Commons, should vote for the Home Rule bill, the Irish party would oppose him.

Mr. Charles Warner, the actor, committed suicide in New York while insane. He was found hanging in his room at an hotel.

Mr. Warner left an incoherent and hysterical note, alleging that he had been harassed by blackmail.

The Bengali student, who shot the Public Prosecutor at Alipur, confessed that he was given a revolver and 20 rupees to commit the crime.

There is an influential movement among Indian men to a memorial to the murdered Public Prosecutor.

China is establishing a Consulate-General at Vancouver, Canada, and a Vice-Consulate at Vancouver.

Orations were delivered in the United States House of Representatives on Friday in honour of the centenary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln.

Mr. Schreiber, ex-premier of Czecho-Slovakia, states that the rights of the non-European peoples are adequately safeguarded in the new constitution.

He fears that the Constitution will jeopardise the coloured franchise.

Orders for 30,000 tons of new shipping have been placed on the Clyde. Full time has been resumed in some yards.

AN EXQUISITE COAT AND SKIRT.

One of the most appealing maritime disasters ever taken place in the New Zealand coast occurred on Friday night near Cape Terawhiti, in Cook Strait.

The Fast Steamer *Steamer Penguin*, Union Steamship Company, was in the evening, when hit by a rock, 6 o'clock in the morning, ran on the rocks at 10 p.m. in very rough weather.

The ship was making water rapidly, the boats were awed, and the women and children were lost in less than an hour.

The vessel was smashed against the rocks, and the occupants were driven into the sea.

The men took to the rafts, and the ship was soon in less than an hour.

Fifty-five lives were lost, the number of men being 27.

Most sets of heroes were performed when the boats were overturned, the stronger helping the weaker to regain the rafts.

Miss Hannah was the only woman saved. Nine of her children were drowned before her.

Mr. Cecil Parker was elected on Saturday to the vacant seat on the Senate of the Sydney University.

He received 240 votes as against 65 cast.

When passing through New Zealand by special arrangement Sir Harry Rawson was present with an address on behalf of the residents.

In the mate Australia by the Rest of Australia, the former completed their first innings in 100.5 hours.

The Rest of Australia have lost three wickets in 173.

Another dynamic outrange has been perpetrated at Broken Hill, an attempt having been made to stop the main water supply to the town for a year.

The explosion was the most violent experienced during the present trouble, but the perpetrators of the outrange did not succeed in their object.

Local developments are looked for on the 18th for a tortoise, when Mr. Justice Higgins is expected to announce his award in the Arbitration case.

The ocean beach at Manly was very dangerous for bathers yesterday owing to a strong north-easterly causing a heavy swell.

Throughout the day no less than 32 bathers were carried out, and were rescued by the Manly Surf Club's life-boats.

In view of the losses the persons responsible were warning when brought in, and he was resuscitated.

At Freshwater Beach early in the day one of the regular bathers, Bert Freeman, aged 21, was carried out and drowned.

The body was discovered by one of the bathers staying on it in the water some hours afterwards.

A successful surf gymkhana was held at Tamarama Bay on Saturday.

A touch of realism was imparted to the bathing during the afternoon by some bathers getting into difficulties, and having to be rescued.

The Minister for Public Instruction has approved of plans being prepared for the erection of a public school at Cronulla.

A movement has been initiated for the erection of an Anglican church at Cronulla.

The seventy-seventh anniversary of the foundation of the King's School, Parramatta, was celebrated on Saturday.

During the year the school, it was stated, had received 1,000 records.

The Nurses' Home was opened in connection with the Marrickville Cottage Hospital, was opened on Saturday.

The Public Works Committee took evidence at the court of enquiry into the railway from Darlington to the coast.

Five witnesses gave evidence relating to the North Coast line at Port Macquarie.

The Rockhampton Council had a meeting of committees, and two free dental clinics.

The council chamber was strewn with upturned and broken furniture, books, and papers, the meeting ended abruptly.

The Taree-Gloucester section of the North Coast will probably commence about the middle of next month.

Efforts are being made to induce the Government to resume the tramline between the North and Fassifern, and to substitute a trolley service.

At the Bowring's annual regatta on Saturday the Sydney Club was the most evidenced, winning the maiden fours, junior fours, and open eights.

At the Moorefield races Tinsel won the Handicap, and Plaiden the Flying Hounds.

Attention was principally directed in the horse market on Saturday to copper and gold.

A fair amount of business was recorded in copper shares, and silver stocks were firm.

To-day's forecast:—Becoming more and more with a tendency to northward, but still a tendency for showers on the coast.

REUBEN BRANCH, HYDE PARK CORNER, OXFORD- STREET.

PERFECT IN FIT, MAKE, AND FINISH.

Inspection invited.

Patterns and self-measurement Form sent anywhere.

REUBEN BRANCH, HYDE PARK CORNER, OXFORD- STREET.

JEWELRY.

We carry the LARGEST STOCK in AUSTRALIA.

We cut them from the rough.

We export them in Quantities.

• FAIRFAX and ROBERTS, 23 Hunter-street.

SUE OUR WINDOW, A MAGNIFICENT DISPLAY of HIGH-CLASS WOOLLENS.

THE LARGEST SELECTION in SYDNEY.

MITSU TO YOUR MEASURE, 32.

PERFECT IN FIT, MAKE, AND FINISH.

Inspection invited.

Patterns and self-measurement Form sent anywhere.

REUBEN BRANCH, HYDE PARK CORNER, OXFORD- STREET.

SHIPPING.

FOR M. & S. TULL and CO., Limited, Agents.

FOR G. R. TULL and CO., Limited, Agents.</

ON THE LAND.

FARM AND STATION.

RAILWAY POLICY.

HANDLING STOCK AND PRODUCE.

THE DAIRY INSPECTOR.

The patience of the producers in New South Wales in connection with the facilities afforded for conveying their live stock to produce to market and to the export port is certainly equal to that of ancient Job. In going about in the country districts one is astonished at the number of instances which are quoted to show that the most difficult part of the farmer's undertaking is that of getting his produce promptly carried to the place in which he must sell it. Most people are under the impression that the chief cause of truck trouble is suffered only by those who send cattle and sheep to Hobart, but while this is no doubt the principal affliction of the producers, there are hundreds of minor ones which are equally irritating if they are not quite disastrous in their effects. It is a common thing to learn in a fruit district that only a limited number of wagons is provided each day for carrying the fruit to Sydney. In order to secure a place for the fresh fruit in these conveyances, it is often necessary to arise in the very small hours of the morning, and dash over rough roads into the town. Even this is not enough. Requiring an accurate knowledge of the several ramifications of the road network, the producer, who should know this subject thoroughly, should also have some veterinary knowledge, and a working knowledge of the several ramifications of the subject, but sufficient working knowledge of the several ramifications of the subject, but sufficient

knowledge of stock management, and hygiene, drainage, etc., should also acquaint him with his stock-in-trade. All this, however, is not enough. He must be a good stockman, and, above all, he should be an enthusiast in his stock and in his trade, and a man of strong character.

MOLANG.—At the annual meeting of the Manildra Pastoral and Agricultural Association the balance-sheets disclosed the receipts for the year ended 31st Dec., 1908, leaving a credit balance of £270.

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POLITICS IN BRITAIN.

GENERAL ELECTION LOOMING.
THE LORDS THE ISSUE.

LONDON, Feb. 13.
Mr. J. A. Pease, Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury, speaking at Plymouth yesterday, said that a general election would come before many months passed, and the issue would be the abolition of the vote of the House of Lords.

Mr. Pease recommended that the referendum should be resorted to when the House of Lords and the House of Commons came into conflict.

AN IRISH THREAT.

RELATIONS WITH LIBERALISM.

HANGING IN THE BALANCE.

Mr. John Dillon, M.P. (Nationalist), speaking at Belfast in reply to criticism representing that the Irish party was the tail of the Liberal party, affirmed that the Irish had had very little cause for complaint. The all recognised a great change in the Liberal party since the death of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, and they were waiting to see whether the Imperialist and Bourgeois section or the Radical and Home Rule section would prevail.

Mr. Dillon continued that the relationship of the Irish party with the Liberal party was now hanging in the balance. They would know what it was going to be in the ensuing session which would be one of those results.

RETURN OF THE KING.

OVAITION IN LONDON.
IN BETTER HEALTH.

LONDON, Feb. 13.
King Edward and Queen Alexandra yesterday started from Berlin on their return journey home in severely cold weather.

Feb. 14.

The King and Queen received an ovation on reaching London.

It is officially announced that the cold from which the King was suffering on quitting England a week ago is now definitely better.

THE ROYAL CONVERSATIONS.

SOME RESULTS.

NO REDUCTION OF ARMAMENTS.

Several newspaper correspondents state that the conversations between King Edward and the German Emperor during the visit of the former to Berlin, and between Sir Charles Hardinge, British Permanent Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and Herr von Schoen, German Minister for Foreign Affairs, covered a wide field, and that as a result exchanges of views between the two Foreign Offices will be more frequent.

The correspondents add that while the general results of these conversations are regarded as highly satisfactory, nobody expects a reduction of armaments will be one of those results.

DEATH OF CHARLES WARNER.
REPORTED SUICIDE.

HARASSED BY BLACKMAILERS.

LONDON, Feb. 12, 1:15 p.m.
Reports from New York state that Charles Warner, actor, committed suicide while insane. Mr. Warner was 62 years of age.

Later.
Mr. Charles Warner was found hanging from the door jamb of his room in a hotel. Deceased left an incoherent and hysterical note alleging that he had been harassed by blackmailers.

Mr. Harry Warner, son of the deceased, explained that his father's mind had lately been deranged, and that he had not appeared on the stage for a year.

The deceased left behind cash whereby to pay his board and lodgings. A bank-atm found indicated two attempts at strangulation.

14 portion of the above appeared in Saturday's second edition.

THE NATIONALIST PARTY.

QUARREL OVER ACCOUNTS.

A MEMBER EJECTED.

LONDON, Feb. 12.
At a private meeting of the Irish Party yesterday, at Dublin, which was proceeding to elect officers, Mr. Laurence Ginnell, M.P., was forcibly ejected for insisting upon the accounts of the party being submitted to an examination.

In an interview with press representatives afterwards Mr. Ginnell complained that there had been an unauthorised distribution of the party's money. One set, he said, was using the funds to attack and undermine another set of the same party.

Mr. J. E. Redmond, was re-elected leader of the party.

FRENCH TARIFF REVISION.

PROPOSED INCREASED DUTIES.

BRITISH MERCHANTS DISSATISFACTION.

LONDON, Feb. 13.
Commercial men of Great Britain have been greatly stirred lately by the prospect of losing a large proportion of their trade under the projected French tariff revision. In their protests they declare that the changes are likely to damage the entire between the two countries.

It is now known that the French have decided to oppose a number of proposals embodied in the bill put forward by the Customs Commission on the ground that it is calculated unfavourably to affect the relations of France with Great Powers.

The Commission contends that the bill represents only £1,000,000 surcharge upon foreign trade, compared with £2,000,000 surcharge upon French trade under foreign tariffs.

"Buster's" correspondent, in a message from Paris, stated that it would be welcome news to the Imperialists in England that the French Commission was before the French Customs Commission was for raising the import duties on woolens goods. This was only part of the bill, and it is proposed for the additional additions in other directions to the bill.

It is to be wished that it is not the French who will be the first to move, for if France sends to the United Kingdom just double the amount of elastic goods she imports from that country, it will be a serious blow.

The loan of £1,000,000, bearing interest at the rate of 5 per cent., issued by Rio de Janeiro in London at £92, was instantly covered tenfold, and is now at a premium of £3.

The loan of £1,000,000, bearing interest at the rate of 4 per cent., issued by the city of Pretoria at £95, was instantly subscribed tenfold, and is now at a premium of £1.

MUNICIPAL LOANS.

BIO AND PRETORIA.

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ABRAHAM LINCOLN CENTENARY.

BRITISH LETTER APPLAUSED.

LONDON, Feb. 13.
The House of Representatives of the United States yesterday listened to orations in honour of Abraham Lincoln, the day being the centenary of his birth. The House applauded a letter from Great Britain tendering the United States sympathy in the celebration of the centenary.

REPUBLIC DISASTER.

BALTI'S CAPTAIN HONOURED.

LONDON, Feb. 13.
The Committee of Lloyd's has conferred the silver medal of the society on Captain Hanson, of the steamer Baltic, in connection with the rescue which he effected from the steamer Republic, sunk off Naukucket, after collision with the Florida.

TEST CRICKET MATCHES.

CONFERENCE WITH ENGLAND.

LONDON, Feb. 13.
Marylebone Cricket Club has decided to do its utmost to send a team to South Africa next December.

The committee of the club has also agreed in response to the desire of the Australian board of control to call a conference in the coming summer to consider rules relative to test matches.

AUSTRIA AND SERVIA.

SITUATION NOT IMPROVED.

LONDON, Feb. 14.
The situation between Austria-Hungary and Servia does not improve.

THE TOTTENHAM OUTRAGE.

SECOND PERPETRATOR DIES.

LONDON, Feb. 23.
Hefeld, the surviving perpetrator of the Tottenham outrage, has died.

SHIPBUILDING REVIVAL.

NEW TONNAGE ON THE CLYDE.

LONDON, Feb. 13.
Orders for 30,000 tons of new shipping have been placed on the Clyde. Full time has been resumed in some yards.

Many advanced upon all securities. N.W. & P. & L. & Co., Ltd., 74 Castle Street, 14, Sydney, and 17 Hunter-street, Sydney. Ernest Bassett, Q. Mgr.—Advt.

Other claims on Venezuela made by Americans will be referred to arbitration.

Opposed to the British War Office placing a contract for timed meat with a Chicago firm, the newspapers state that the action of the authorities was due to the inability of colonial packers to supply the quantity and quality demanded.

Opposed to the colonial packers state that they did not tender for the contract, owing to their objection to the replacement clause in the contract.

The War Office has informed Mr. J. W. Taverne, Agent-General for Victoria, that it will shortly be inviting tenders for 500,000 lbs of meat for delivery in the autumn.

CRIME IN INDIA.

CONFESSION OF TAKING BLOOD MONEY.

MEMORIAL TO MURDERED MAN.

LONDON, Feb. 12.
Bose, a Bengal student, who shot the Hindu Public Prosecutor at Alipur, and was subsequently arrested, has confessed that he was given a revolver and twenty rupees to commit the crime.

There is an influential movement among Hindus to raise a memorial to the murdered public prosecutor, the late Mr. Ranjan Bhawar.

VENEZUELAN CONCESSIONS.

RESTORATIONS TO AMERICANS.

LONDON, Feb. 14.
Mr. W. L. Buchanan, Special Commissioner of the United States, has induced Venezuela to restore the property of the New York and Bermudas Asphalt Company to the company paying the Government a small annual revenue.

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THE TOTTENHAM OUTRAGE.

SECOND PERPETRATOR DIES.

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BARRIER TURMOIL.

DYNAMITE AGAIN.

POSSIBLE FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS.

THE EXTREMIST IDEA.

A SPLIT FORESHADOWED.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL REPORTER.)

BROKEN HILL, Sunday.

No vital developments are looked for on the Barrier for about a fortnight, when Mr. Justice Higgins is expected to announce his award in the arbitration case. His Honor should be in a position to arrive at a decision at that time, provided no complications occur in reference to the amended plaint. That document was handed to his Honor on Friday, but was not discussed, as the miners did not entirely satisfies requirements in regard to establishing jurisdiction, but, as indicated in the reports, it brings forward an entirely new phase as far as the company is concerned—that is, a demand that exactly the same wages obtaining in Broken Hill under the agreement between the mine managers and the unions should apply to the Proprietary Company's miners. Mr. Justice Higgins, when the first hint of this was given, in Melbourne, said that the conditions were so different at Port Pirie and the Barrier that on that ground alone he would be compelled to strongly oppose this particular amendment, apart altogether from the question of the introduction of new matter half-way through the hearing. The position is to be argued at Port Pirie, and it may lead to an unlocked-for extension of the proceedings.

In the meantime, matters are expected to remain comparatively quiet on the Barrier, as the big majority of the men, relying upon the case they have put forward, hope to have a favourable decision of the Court at their back when the time arrives for the company to announce definitely whether or not the big miners is to be recompensed. On this point, public opinion here has in no way changed. No one has expected full operations to be resumed at the mine, and the miners are in agreement, and the frankly sympathetic attitude towards the men adopted by Mr. Justice Higgins in the court only adds to the foreboding that this time is not yet sight, when the drift will again be at work in the Proprietary. Whether or not the men will agree to a limited number of them going back to work is another question, and any proposed resumption of operations that does not include the raising of ore will be resisted. There is more than squabbling now, and the miners are determined that the miners who ever any of the other mine managers call for a few extra hands, and this is regarded by the men as indicative of danger to them. There is no room for compromise at the moment, and the miners will not be budged.

JUSTICE HIGGINS AT PORT PIRIE

ADELAIDE, Sunday.

Mr. Justice Higgins arrived at Port Pirie on Saturday, and inspected the miners. The Court will resume at 10 o'clock on Monday morning, and probably conclude on Wednesday.

A.M.A.'S POSITION.

BROKEN HILL, Saturday.

The balance-sheet of the A.M.A. for the quarter ended December 31 last shows the following results of the association's work: Cash and bank credits, £162,745; and the total assets over liabilities of £321,185. Funeral fund: Cash and bank credits, £1,000; and total assets, £1,000. 4d. and liabilities nil. The association has a present membership of 5674.

NEWCASTLE MINERS' ATTITUDE.

NEWCASTLE, Monday.

The various miners' lodges of the Newcastle and Maitland districts at their meetings during the past week have adopted the attitude recommended by Mr. Justice Higgins in the court only adds to the foreboding that this time is not yet sight, when the drift will again be at work in the Proprietary. Whether or not the men will agree to a limited number of them going back to work is another question, and any proposed resumption of operations that does not include the raising of ore will be resisted. There is more than squabbling now, and the miners are determined that the miners who ever any of the other mine managers call for a few extra hands, and this is regarded by the men as indicative of danger to them. There is no room for compromise at the moment, and the miners will not be budged.

It was this fear of disorganization that prompted the combined unions to refuse the offer of the "service" of Mr. H. H. H. Smith, and the miners' leaders, at the last, by the way, may bring this up again. There is even now a division in the ranks of the miners, with the majority supporting those who are with the extremists, and already the latter have declared that they will set up a rival platform for Mr. H. H. H. Smith, and have him appear in front of the Trades Hall to talk to an empty roadway. The extremists are, of course, chafing under the present inaction. They are, however, in a quandary, as the industrial rest means putting back the hands of the clock as far as their propaganda work is concerned. The chief objective of the miners, at present, is not to work, and from their point of view they can only achieve that objective by fomenting industrial chaos. It is a logical section of the miners who are guided by dynamite who are sprung, and it is to them that we may look for further outrages, in spite of all the rational counsels of their leaders. The miners' leaders, however, can be best summed up in the words used by a prominent unionist the other night: "When a nation, violence achieves nothing; what we want is to turn the miners' leaders into the leaders of a movement, and then if action is necessary let us take it; but it is no good moving until we have definite and immediate object in view."

The coming of Mr. Griffith and Mr. Dooley, M.L.A., is being viewed with interest on the part of the men, and the two State members can hardly look forward to an altogether enjoyable holiday. To the Patriotic Labour party, however, here the Patriotic Labour party has always been anathema, and ever since one or two members of that party, commenting on the miners' strike, have said that the starting opinion that law and order should be maintained, the whole body seems to have fallen under the ban of the strikers. They are, however, in a quandary, as the miners' leaders resist his responsibilities as a legislator, and let it be known, the very men who put him in are ready to turn him into a hot-head. However, the miners' leaders, the Patriotic and the men once more lapse into the background between this and the announcement of the award, the plot of events will, the unions' leaders, I trust, afford some little interest to the waiting public.

ATTEMPT ON PROPRIETARY.

A STARTLING EXPLOSION.

BROKEN HILL, Saturday.

Throughout the sittings of the Arbitration Court in Broken Hill, the miners, even the most recalcitrant of them, have kept remarkably quiet, probably because of the insistent warnings given by their leaders that any act of lawlessness would prejudice their case, especially in view of the reasons that were to be put forward in support of the miners' application to have evidence taken in Melbourne. But the departure of the Court has been promptly signified by a recurrence of the dynamiting so prominent in the early part of last month.

On this occasion a sinister attempt was made to completely cut off the water supply from the Proprietary mine, in that a number of explosives were packed in a pipe which was made for the main pipe—a few feet away. As it was, two or three feet of the pipe was blown to fragments, and a great hole was made in the ground. But although it will take a little time to repair, only slight inconvenience will be caused.

SUNDAY PROCESSIONS.

SOCIALISTS ON UNIONS.

BROKEN HILL, Sunday.

Only last Sunday one of the socialist leaders, addressing a meeting near the goal, took place this afternoon, a procession about one mile, marching through the streets, headed by a banner, "Down with Capitalism." Most of the processionists were women, and the proceedings were very tame. Mr. Holland, a typical socialist, was present, and spoke, severely criticizing the organisation, but for the attitude they had taken up him and his wife, she would sound like the lassies of Ross. Another socialist demonstration to the same effect was held yesterday afternoon.

Another socialist demonstration to the same effect was held yesterday afternoon. He was drawing sand with a two-horse dray, and was seated on top of the load, and while driving up out of the town he fell over the bank. It fell on the unfortunate fellow, who was instantly killed.

SHIP'S CAPTAIN DROWNED.

ADELAIDE, Sunday.

Captain John Wallace was found dead in the river in front of his house at Goolwa, by Constable Bill Williams, who was sent down yesterday from the steamer Victoria, which is engaged by the Engineer-in-Chief's Department in surveying the Murray above Renmark.

LITHGOW, Saturday.

A young man named Charles Ruston met death on the banks of the Murray, when he had both arms broken. It is stated that he was wheeling a barrow along a plank at the Lithgow Valley Company's works, when he lost his balance, and fell a few feet to the ground, with the result stated.

TOM MANN IN MELBOURNE.

TARRA BANK ADDRESS.

LABOUR NEVER IS ORGANISED.

MELBOURNE, Sunday.

A large crowd gathered on the Yarra bank to hear addresses on the miners of the Broken Hill miners from Mr. Tom Mann and delegates from Broken Hill and Sydney. The

speeches mentioned that the collection on the previous Sunday was only £250. It was said the New South Wales Government had secured the State for the rift-raft that had joined the police force. There had been a feeling in the miners, in favour of the 44 hours' week, but it was thought by the majority that it would be indistinct to insist upon such a demand at this time. The miners, however, did not indicate their strength in resisting the attempt to lower the standard. The organisation at Port Pirie was not yet complete. There the men had been working seven hours a day, and the miners determined to fight against the reduction of wages, and nine days ago resolved that the master what the Arbitrator might say, the miners would never go back to the system of seven shifts a week. (hear, hear.) The workers should strive to get an organisation with the object to be a national one, and signed for the sport of the miners.

THE result in all respects was purely Australian. The miners had no local body, and the Sydney miners, who have gathered at Tamaras Bay on Saturday, they called the gathering a surf gymkhana, and they were there to vie with each other, and to show the public how the trick of wresting a victim from the ocean's trap could be done.

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MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL.

STOCKS AND SHARES.

A fair amount of business was effected on Change on Saturday. Commercial Banking Company of Australia shares rose 8/-, Colonial Sugar Refinery 4/-, and Manly Gas (new) 2/-, sugar being at late rates. Buyers offered 4/- more for Bank of New South Wales, 3/- more for North Coast Steam, 6/- more for Sydney Ferries, 2/- less for Castlemaine and Wood Brothers, 2/- more for others.

The following table was reported:—Bank of New South Wales, 6/- 1/2/-; New South Wales Treasury Bills, 151; 25/-; Castlemaine and Wood Bros., 9/-; Colonial Sugar, 4/- 1/2/-; Perpetual Trusts, 12/-; Manly Gas, 2/-; Commercial Banking Company, 2/-.

FINANCIAL.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REFORM. The Chamber of Commerce is to be held this Saturday to consider the report of the sub-committee appointed at the last annual meeting of members on the subject of housing and the offering of the chamber, and the revision of the rates.

The more important portions of this report are as follows:

"We would be glad to admit that of necessity the rates will change in some of us. All we ask is that they should be so arranged that the business will continue to be well managed. It would be a great mistake to assume that the expense rates should never exceed the present amount, and some gradual reduction should be provided for. It is also important that we are able to assert our rights in respect of the management, whether it be of the rates or the management, to help us; an attempt of policy to do this.

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PROBLEMS OF THE A.M.P. Society.

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INTERSTATE EXCHANGES.

MELBOURNE, Saturday. Sales—Commercial Bank, 4/- 1/2/-; R.R. & A. 4/-; Bank of Australia, 4/-; Commonwealth Bank, 4/-; Latrobe Mortgagors, 151; Melbourne Treasury, 4/-; Victoria, 4/-; Victoria, 90; Howard Smith, 4/-; Portman, Wright, 2/-.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The Empire sailed on Saturday for Hong Kong with 18 boxes gold, valued at £37,000, shipped by Chinese.

The Mocton left for London Saturday with four boxes gold bullion, shipped by Mount Boppy Company, and four boxes ditto, ex Wodonga, from Queensland.

A company is being floated in Melbourne with a capital of £100,000 to establish another woollen mill at Warrandyte, Hastings.

COMMERCIAL.

THE WHEAT MARKET.

The wheat market fully maintained its position on Saturday, and the wheat buyers ready for delivery, but no sellers were offered under 4/- in the country millers bought at better than the equivalent of 4/-. In the light of the recent London sales, very little wheat was offered, and the market was rather indistinct, but rather than indistinct, sales only.

The other points raised are dealt with in detail, but no suggestion is thrown out, and the market is considered to be in a well worth looking at.

The financial aspect would be better seen in the credit due to the market.

True! But how is this to be accomplished?

At present the position of the chamber is not strong. The president, when attempting to veto the purchase of a safe and a typewriter, says: "The Bank of Australia has arranged to take the safe and typewriter, and the rest of the chamber is not strong.

This is a matter which has singularly remained prominent and of smaller potential means have figured in this city as powers of detail, and the market is not strong.

But the market is not strong, and accommodation for their owners. To formulate a position, the chamber is not strong.

The financial aspect would be better seen in the credit due to the market.

THE AUSTRALIAN WIDOWS FUND.

The report of the above society, covering the 12 months ended October 31, shows a slight falling off in new business, but all 3034 policies were written, and the amount of new business was £1,000,000, against £734,729 during the previous year.

The following comparison is instructive:—

NEW BUSINESS.

Policies issued 1908. 2,729, 2,668. 3,465. 3,024

Amount assured 184,583. 626,441. 749,739. 875,293

Amount premium 218,644. 24,481. 36,294. 40,273

Amount premium per cent 218/2. 23/2. 23/2. 24/2. 25/2.

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